

NASA TECH BRIEF

Marshall Space Flight Center



NASA Tech Briefs announce new technology derived from the U.S. space program. They are issued to encourage commercial application. Tech Briefs are available on a subscription basis from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22151. Requests for individual copies or questions relating to the Tech Brief program may be directed to the Technology Utilization Office, NASA, Code KT, Washington, D.C. 20546.

Reduced Preparation Time for Thermal Vacuum Chamber Tests

Preparation for tests in a thermal vacuum chamber may be considerably shortened if the required temperature condition is achieved before an attempt to reach the required vacuum condition. This is due to the fact that the insulation system of the test chamber will more quickly reach thermal equilibrium when it is gassy and least efficient than it will when evacuated and most efficient. Thermal flow rates should be calculated for each test requirement to determine which approach will afford the greater savings in time and costs with least risk of damage to the test article.

Note:

Requests for further information may be directed to:
Technology Utilization Officer
Marshall Space Flight Center
Code A&PS-TU
Marshall Space Flight Center, Alabama 35812
Reference: B73-10163

Patent status:

NASA has decided not to apply for a patent.

Source: T. W. Tysor of
Rockwell International Corp.
under contract to
Marshall Space Flight Center
(MFS-24171)

Category 03